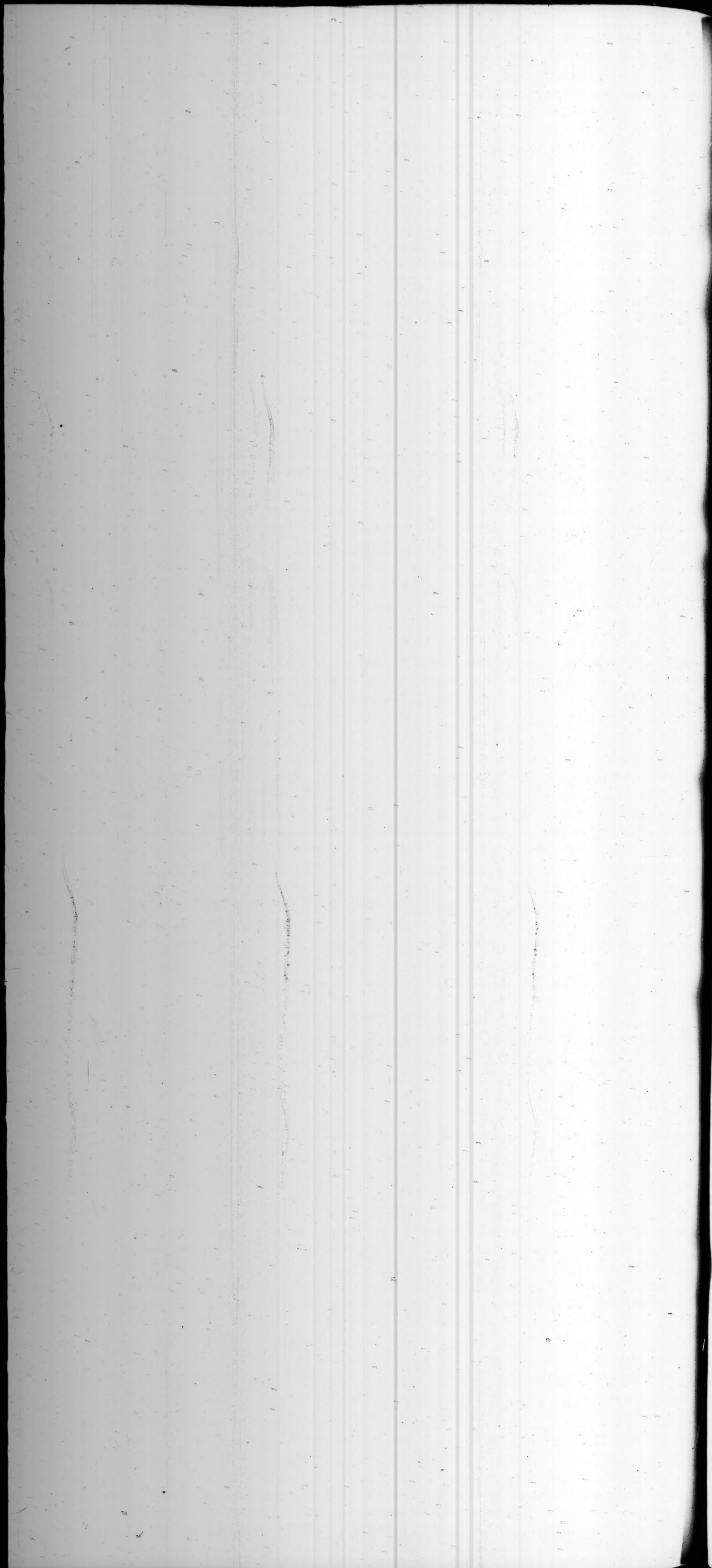


By the Queene.



Here in the Parliament holden at Westminster in the xxiij. yeere of the reigne of the late King, of most famous memorie King Henry the eight, ffather to our most Gracious Soueraigne Lady the Queenes Maiestie, there was an Acte and Statute made touching and concerning the sowing of flaxe seede and Hempe seede, by which Act and Statute it was then ordeyned and provided, that all maner of persons of what estate, degree or condition they be of, hauing in their occupation lx. Acres of arable land or pasture, or lx. Acres of arable land and pasture being apt for tillage, should yeerely for euer at their proper costes and charges, till a sowe, or cause to be tilled & sowed in seasona-

ble time, one Roode, that is to say, the fourth part of one Acre of the land being in their occupation, with Lincseede, other wise called flaxe seede, or Hempe seede, or with both, to be sowed in one place, or in severall places at their pleasures, vpon paine of forfaiture of iii. s. iii. d. which Acte and Statute was made to endure but for a certaine time, and after severall continuances thereof had, the same Acte and Statute was suffered to expire and determine, as by the same Acte more at large will appeare. And where also at a Parliament holden at Westminster, in the fifth yeere of the Queenes Maiesties reigne, there was another Acte and Statute made, intituled an Acte touching certeine politicke constitutions made for the mainteynance of the Hauie. In which Acte and Statute, amongst other thinges it was and is ordeyned and provided, that in euery such Countie of this Realme, or part of such Countie, where by the Queenes Maiesties Proclamation it shalbe published, the said former Act and Statute before recyted, to be commodious or profitable for the common wealth, that there the said former Statute, and euery clause, article and prouision therein conteyned, be and shalbe reuiued, and stand in full force and strength, to be executed and perfourmed in all thinges (other then in the proportion of a Roode or fourth part of an Acre, and in the paine of iii. s. iii. d. by the said former Statute limited.) In place whercof it is further ordeyned and enacted, by the said last recyted Statute, that in euery case and degree, where by the saide former Statute, one Roode or fourth part of an Acre is limited to be sowed with Lincseede, other wise flaxe seede, or Hempe seede, that there in liewe and steade of the said Roode or fourth part of an Acre, one whole Acre or lesse, as by the Proclamation in fourme aforesaid shalbe limited, shalbe sowed with Lincseede, other wise flaxe seede, or Hempe seede, vpon paine of forfaiture of v. li. for euery such default or offence, as by the last recyted Acte and Statute more at large it doth and may appeare. Wherefore the Queenes most excellent Maiestie, hauing a speciall care to relieue her owne naturall Subiectes, by aduancing and increasing of the commodities of this her Realme of England, wherby her owne people may be the better able to liue in good and vertuous exercises, and calling to her remembrance the great commoditie and profite that may growe and come to very many of her said louing Subiectes, by the reuiving of the said former Acte and Statute in all Shires and Counties of this Realme, (which her Highnesse, by severall Proclamations to be directed into euery Countie of this Realme, intendeth to doe, and thereby to limite and appoint some certeine proportion of ground yeerely to be sowed with Linc-



seede or Hempe seede, and a penaltie and forfaiture for not doing thereof, according to the authoritie to her Highnesse giuen by the said last recyted Acte and Statute) doeth therefore now by this her Highnesse Proclamation, declare and publish to al her louing Subiects within these her Highnesse Counties and Shires, (namely of Barkeshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, the Isle of Elye, Cheshire, Darbyshire, Dorsetshire, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hartfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Kente, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Rutlandshire, Somersetshire, Southamptonshire, Staffordshire, Suffolke, Suffex, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire and Yorkeshire,) the said former Acte and Statute before recyted, and made in the said four and twentieth yere of the reigne of the sayd late King Henry the eighth, her most noble father, to be commodious and profitable for the Common wealth, and to be executed, obserued, and kept by all her Subiectes in all places throughout her Maiesties Shires or Counties aforesayd. And further the Queenes Highnesse, according to the authoritie to her giuen by the said last recyted Statute, doeth by this her Maiesties present Proclamation limite and appoint, that in place and stead of the sayd one Rood or fourth part of an Acre, and of the sayd penaltie and forfaiture of iii. s. iiii. d. mencioned and expressed in the sayde former Acte and Statute, that this present yere one halfe Acre, and after that, one Acre of land shall yeerely be sowen with Line seede, other wise Flaxe seede, or Hempe seede, or with both, vpon paine of forfaiture of v. li. for euery default or offence. And therefore her Highnesse doeth straightly charge and commaund, and by this her Maiesties Proclamation doeth also limite and appoint, that all maner of persons, of what estate, condition, or degree they be of, within any the Counties aforesaid, hauing in their owne occupation lx. Acres of arable lande or Pasture, or lx. Acres of arable lande and Pasture in any place or places within any the Counties aforesaid, being apt for tillage, that they and euery of them shall yeerely from hencefoorth for ever at their owne proper costes and charges till and sow, or cause to be tilled and sowen in seasonable time, without fraude or couin, one halfe Acre this present yere, and after that, yeerely one Acre of lande, being in their occupation, with Line seede, or otherwise called Flaxe seede, or Hempe seede, or with both. The said one halfe Acre for this present yere, and after that, one Acre to be taken and sowen in one place together, or in severall places at their pleasures, vpon paine of forfaiture of v. li. for euery default or offence hereafter to be committed or suffered by any person or persons, contrary to the tenour, fourme, and effect of the said former Act and Statute, and of this present Proclamation. Wherefore her Highnesse doth further straitly charge and commaunde all her Iustices of Assise, Iustices of the Peace, Sheriffes, Bayliffes, and all other her Officers and Ministers, that now be, or hereafter shalbe within any the Counties aforesaid, that they and euery of them doe from hencefoorth cause diligent inquisition to be made of all offences that hereafter shalbe committed or done by any person or persons within any the Counties aforesaid, contrary to the tenour and effect of the said former Act and Statute, and of this present Proclamation, or of any Article or clause therein conteyned, as they and euery of them will answere to the contrary at their perils. Giuen at Richmonde the fiftenth Day of Januarie, the one and twentieth yere of the Queenes Maiesties most noble reigne.

God saue the Queene.

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